Tutors at this year’s Read/San Diego Adult & Family Literacy Program Conference, pictured from left to right: Cindy C., Ann T., Janine C., Kathy W., Melissa M., and Kerstin H.

The 29th Read/San Diego Tutor Conference provides opportunities for tutors to practice innovative teaching skills while networking with other tutors and staff throughout California.
Have you ever said as a parent, “My kids don’t listen to me!” The good news is they actually do listen and, more importantly, they model what you do. If parents read at home to their children, their children are more likely to become readers and enjoy books. In fact, statistics show that children who are read to have 20% better reading skills than children who were not read to at home.

Thanks to a family literacy grant from the California State Library, the Napa Library has been doing a number of classes and projects with families. Parents have a lot of competition for their children’s attention with cell phones, laptops, and computer games, and children are not reading as much as they used to. In response, the Literacy Center has purchased popular children’s books for the summer reading program, for the Napa jail, for back-to-school events, and for waiting rooms at hospitals and doctors’ offices. Having books in the home encourages reading.

Reading leads to success in all subjects: science, math, social studies, and language arts. You can’t go far in these subjects with limited reading skills. While going to school helps children become better educated, the home environment plays a significant role in a child’s educational, emotional and social growth. Parents modeling engagement in learning translates into child success.

When parents improve their own life through parenting classes, continuing education, and by obtaining citizenship, for example, the benefit trickles down to their children. Take Gemma, for example, shown here with her two grandsons. Gemma started in the Literacy Center eight years ago with a fourth grade education. On May 23, 2019, Gemma received her Associate Degree in Human Services from Napa Valley College. Gemma is one of the most determined people I know. I can say with confidence that she has been a good role model for her grandsons.

Another example is Guadalupe. Guadalupe has five grown children and wanted to improve her reading and writing skills to get a job and be more independent. Her son wrote a note to her tutor Betty which said, “Dear Betty, As Guadalupe’s son, I wanted to express my gratitude for the time you have spent with her, as well as the patience and dedication you have shown her. You have made a positive difference in her life, and for that my siblings and I are grateful. Thank you. Warm regards to you and your loved ones, Oscar.”

When you help an adult you help the whole family. Children are watching and sometimes they even listen!

-Robin Rafael
Literacy and Volunteer Services Supervisor
International Literacy Day is a worldwide event to raise awareness to the fact that more than 780 million adults in the world do not know how to read or write, and between 94 million and 115 million children lack access to education.

The Napa County Library Literacy Center likes to take this day to provide information and materials about literacy and highlight services to help people in our community.

Please stop by any Napa County Library branch to learn more about Literacy Services.

Tutor Training
Napa Main Library
August 28 & 30 from 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

If you would like to tutor an adult in reading and writing, please sign up for our August 27 & 29 Tutor Training. We also have Online Tutor Training available. Now is the perfect time to start helping a learner in your community! For more information, please call 707-253-4283.

Lunch with Literacy
September 17 at 12 p.m.

Join literacy staff as we learn writing tips from author, editor, and tutor Dona Bakker!

Napa Main Library
RSVP Nicole at 707-253-4610
WELCOME NEW TUTORS!

Heidi W.
Helaine M.
Sandy H.
Kimberly B.
Harold F.

Carole N.
Kathy W.
Richard K.
Mary M.
John B.

LEARNER NEWS

From left to right: Raul C., Veronica K., Rafael S., Roció L., Maria P., Beatriz S., Ariadna R., and Juan R.

Adult Learner Leadership Institute (ALLI)
Napa Facilitators and Trainees

Rocio’s speech from the May 2019 ALLI Conference:

“I am a Salvadoran immigrant and arrived in this country four and a half years ago. I had a basic knowledge of English, and a big desire to learn the language.

I’m a mother of two smart, handsome 22-year-old boys and I am a wife of a wonderful man who inspires and helps me to learn the language because he does not speak Spanish yet. I have a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration and a Master’s in Education. I have taught at the High School and University levels. Coming to this country, I had to start all over. No matter how hard or difficult it was, I kept going. I cleaned houses for two years and it was difficult. Now I am a nanny for a 10-year-old boy and I really love my job.

Two years ago I had a bad experience at a college English class with a teacher. That situation with the teacher stopped my English progress and my confidence to speak was pushed down. After that, I heard about the Literacy Program at the Napa Library and, without hesitation, I applied. When I got my own tutor, I felt really happy and excited because

I had the opportunity to continue learning English. My tutor is such a wonderful woman who teaches me more than just English.

This program is really complete because I’m not just learning to read, write, and speak English better, I’m also learning about how I can grow and integrate myself into this culture as a good speaker and leader and to help others. The Literacy Program is free, you get all the books and support you need to learn, and the greatest thing is you have your own tutor helping and teaching you according to your level.

Through The Literacy Program, I had the opportunity to be a part of ALLI (Adult Learner Leadership Institute) Boot Camp at the Pleasanton Library. It was a big challenge for me but gave me a great goal. The Boot Camp was important and a great experience because it teaches us as immigrants to be leaders and to integrate into our community through English language learning. This allows us to acquire better jobs, to interact socially, to contribute to the community with the acquired knowledge, and grow even more as individuals.

Now the goal is to share with others what we are building and to invite them to come and be a part of the Literacy Program. This will help them build their own dreams because it is never too late to learn and it is never too late to teach others."

Believe, take action, have confidence, be disciplined, and never give up!”
Aminta Rosales has been in the Napa Library Literacy Program for two years. Aminta and her daughter Andrea moved here four years ago to join members of her family and to make a better life for themselves. Aminta has a degree in Clinical Laboratory Sciences from the University of El Salvador. Aminta paid the fees to have her college transcripts translated and evaluated and now holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in California.

Through the Employment Development Department (EDD) of California, Aminta was able to complete the necessary steps to become a certified phlebotomist in the State of California. There were several meetings with EDD prior to enrolling in the course. Aminta was successful in passing both the English and Math requirements before being accepted into the program. Every Saturday, from June 2018 to the end of August 2018, Aminta attended the phlebotomy program through the California Regional Education Center. After successfully completing the phlebotomy training, Aminta completed a two-week internship at Kaiser Permanente in Vallejo. Following her successful completion of the course, Aminta applied for and received her California Certification to practice phlebotomy.

Through the help of EDD (Employment Development Department) and myself, Aminta had her resume translated from Spanish to English and updated. Aminta is now in the process of applying for jobs. She has been successful with a phone interview and has a follow-up interview this week with a well-known laboratory company. Aminta’s short-term goal is to become a lab technician, where she will actually develop the blood and obtain results. Ultimately, Aminta wants to work with the World Health Organization (WHO).

“Aminta applied for and received her California Certification to practice phlebotomy.”

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Ann T.
My Experience
By Rafael S.

“"I want to talk about my experience in the Literacy Program. I am a person who likes to go to the library constantly to pick a book, read for a while, and do projects for my catechism classes or just for fun. Every time I was at the library I saw a couple of people in the reading rooms and I used to ask myself who they are and what are they doing? But never investigated it because I was not interested in it.

By that time, I was a college student in the ESL program and was doing exceedingly well in all areas.

With the passing of time, my parents got sick so I had to drop out of school to take care of them. I lost the opportunities to be exposed to and practice my English because at home and work was only Spanish, and my friends are Spanish speakers, so I lost everything I had learned at the college.

One day one of my parents had a doctor’s appointment. I noticed that I was forgetting my English because I can’t understand what the doctor was telling me or cannot read a prescription at the moment. I reacted and I said to myself, “Rafa, you have to do something to recover your lost English,” but could not go back to college because there was no time to do it. One of my friends told me “go to the library. They can help you and they can adapt to your schedule, it’s free, and the most important is, it’s just you and him.”

So I decided to go and enroll in the program. At the beginning, the classes seemed very silly to me and I felt like slow, but I kept going to the classes, and now the idea I used to have about the program changed because they gave me a really good tutor that has been helping me bring back the English I had lost. Mr. McInnes, who is my tutor and my friend, continues motivating me to continue with my education and advising me in some others personal areas. I am so thankful for everything he has done for me. Also I want to thank this program for giving me the opportunity to continue with my education and prepare for a better life.”

Note: Rafael recently attended the Adult Learner Leadership Institute, pictured here, sponsored by the California State Library.

Career Online High School

For the last few years, libraries have taken the lead on offering adults the opportunity to earn an online high school diploma. The program is called Career Online High School, which offers an accredited high school diploma and career certificate. The goal of the program is to bring adult learners back into the educational mainstream and prepare them for jobs in growing industries.

On Thursday, May 30, 2019, Literacy staff along with Napa County Library Director Danis Kreimeier, Supervisor Ryan Gregory, and Norcal Career Online High School Rep Amanda Winchel, celebrated three new graduates of Career Online High School. Each with their own experiences and backgrounds, they celebrated a common goal in persevering in honor of their children! With the completion of their accredited diplomas, Juana has accepted an advanced position due to her career certificate, Andriana has enrolled at college, and Blanca will join her in the fall!

If you or someone you know would like to earn their high school diploma and receive a career certificate, scholarships are available.

Please call Nicole at 707-253-4610.

Graduates
Juana A., Andriana C., and Blanca J.
“Nicole Thomas as well as the other literacy staff involved with Horizon/Career Online High School have been nothing short of amazing. So, when Nicole called the day before yesterday and asked if I would say a few words at graduation I agreed with no hesitation.

Immediately upon the words, escaping my mouth I regretted it and said, ‘what am I supposed to say?’ Her response, “a few words about your journey to get here.” I snickered to myself, as I thought I am 43 years old this ‘journey’ has been decades long and I must limit it to a few words. For the last twenty-six years, I attempted getting my GED. However, the necessity to achieve this was not a priority as I had a good job. Then, one day at the playground, my daughter sat five feet in the air straddling a gymnastic bar. Her hands clutched on either side of her, arms straight elbows locked. She wrapped one leg around the bar so it rested in the bend of her knee, placing her in a forward facing position. As she flung herself forward, a combination of centrifugal force and flexibility took over and she spun around the bar, upside down, right side up, upside, right side, upside down, right side up. When she stopped, she sat silently looking at me. I said boastfully, ‘I can do that.’ I got on top of the bar not giving it a second thought. My mind wandered to a time, when I was in elementary school yard, when I too enjoyed spinning around the bars with grace and ease. I got into the proper position, took a deep breath and flung myself forward. A shocking pain shot up my leg from behind my knee, where the bar stuck, it hurt! I had not made it around even one time!

I opened my eyes and looked at the world upside down. I was suddenly shocked with a dark reality. I exhaled and let the air out of my lungs, mixed with my deflating ego. At that moment I realized my mortality, I realized I would not be able to perform as I always had. I began to feel my age. I remember thinking; I got a good job but no retirement. I shivered from the cold reality as I asked myself, what are you going to do at sixty to survive? It was then that I felt a desire to finish high school. I once more attempted to get my GED and once again failed. A year and half ago, when California lawmakers considered abolishing an industry that I was employed in, I felt frightened. Now the desire, fueled by necessity, powered by panic, I once more attempted to get my high school diploma, one more time I attempted to succeed at this and here I stand.”

Thank you, Andriana C.
LEARNERS ON THE MOVE

• Alejandro has expanded his vocabulary by using the dictionary and thesaurus in his writing and speaking.
• Miriam has met her goal of learning the alphabet and new words.
• Carmen is improving her speaking, reading, and writing in English.
• Maria V. completed supplemental reading of The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and wrote a 5-paragraph book review.
• Oralia is constantly working on her pronunciation.
• Alejandro is getting more confident in his writing and using outside resources to develop a story.
• Veronica has been refining her resume.
• Maria E. attended the Leadership Academy, and has been completing books and participating in book discussions.
• Rafael attended the Leadership Academy and is increasing his proficiency in written and spoken English.
• Jazmin is steadily preparing for the GED by practicing her writing, reading comprehension, and grammar.
• Rosa is growing her vocabulary and working on fine points of English grammar.
• Scott is recording his reading of challenging words to improve his pronunciation, and reading plays too.
• Alberto finished reading The Freedom Writer’s Diary and Who Is Sitting Bull.
• James is recognizing more sight words, and making more progress with his reading.
• Carmen A. is advancing in the workbooks and continuing to read a novel.
• Ashley was one of a few students who passed her Psych Tech II course.
• Yolanda interviewed for a job in management and was hired.

TUTORS

I am thankful for our tutors, who live very busy lives, even in retirement. Each one has a big heart and invests significant time in helping adult learners. This is Jane and she has tutored in the program going on three years. She makes time for adventures, that’s her riding a camel in Morocco. Jane has helped her learner, Constantina set up her own business and learn how to network. Jane said, “I feel like we are becoming a bit like family. I like the feeling of giving back to the community. It’s hard to tell who is benefiting more.”

-Robin Rafael, Literacy and Volunteer Services Supervisor
Citizenship Classes  
**Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.**  
September 28 - December 21  
(13-week class)

Want to become a US Citizen? Classes provide materials and instruction to prepare for the Citizenship exam. Childcare provided.

For more information, call 707-253-4237.

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Triple P Parenting Program  
**Saturdays from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.**  
July 6 - August 31

Want to feel more successful as a parent and get ideas and strategies to help build a healthy family? Join the Triple P Parenting class. Childcare provided.

For more information, call 707-253-4283.

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ESL Classes  
**English as a Second Language for Beginning and Intermediate Level Students**

Students will improve listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

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Drop-In Services  
**Saturdays from 3 - 6 p.m.**  
at the Napa Main Library in the LifeWorks Room

The Literacy Center provides help with job applications, online forms, Internet searches, and setting up email accounts.

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**New in the Literacy Collection**

Building a Strong Vocabulary . . . for Work Readiness, Academic Preparation, and Life Skills

Each unit of this collection opens with a passage and 12 vocabulary words. Learner’s will determine the meaning of words by using context clues and breaking the words into parts by incorporating a dictionary.

The series asks personal questions, drawing on the learner’s experiences, ideas’ and prior knowledge. This series aids in developing reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. This series is designed for intermediate & advanced learners.

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**Basic Math in Spanish**

**Tuesdays from 6 - 8 p.m.**  
August 20

Napa Main Library, Lifeworks Room

For more information, call 707-253-4237.
SPECIAL EVENTS

FREE BACK-TO-SCHOOL KITS

Enjoy a morning of games and activities and receive a free Back-to-School Kit. For more information, please call 707-253-4610.

American Canyon: Friday, August 2 at 10 a.m.
Napa Main: Friday, August 9 at 10 a.m.
Pioneer Park, Calistoga: Friday, August 16 at 10 a.m.

5th Annual SALSA MAKING CONTEST

Tuesday, September, 10 from 6 - 8 p.m.

Have a great family recipe to share? Join the fun as a taster or a contestant! The top three winners will receive a prize.

Napa Main Library
The Library’s 2019 Summer Library Adventure, “A Universe of Stories” is here and it is for all ages! We highly encourage you to sign up and track your reading and/or listening time and attend events this summer to receive small prizes and entries into the end of the summer raffle. You can sign up for the program online or at your local library anytime between May 28 and July 19. The library will be hosting a variety of FREE family-friendly events and programs. This year we are happy to announce that, thanks to the Families for Literacy funding, we are providing a special program in the library’s schedule of events. It is a theatrical show for families performed by The Traveling Lantern Theatre Company.

**THEATER SHOW: MY MOTHER THE ASTRONAUT**
NAPA MAIN LIBRARY
Tuesday, June 25 @ 2:00 & 4:30 p.m. (2 shows)
AMERICAN CANYON LIBRARY: Friday, June 28 @ 11:00 a.m.

Join the Traveling Lantern Theatre Company for a fun and interactive show in honor of a special space traveler, Mom! (For ages 3+)

**JULY**

**Wild Napa: California Oaks**
Wednesday the 10th/ 7:00 p.m. @Napa Library. Ages 9 and up. Explore the majestic California Oak tree; an important species for many ecosystems.

**H2O Superhero Waterway Hike**
Friday, the 19th 6:00 p.m. @Calistoga Library. Family Friendly. Learn about animals, vegetation and the human impact on our local waterways.

**Ecotainment: Go with the Flow**
Saturday, 20th/Ages 4 and up. Juggling, comedy and audience participation about recycling and water conservation. Presented by Doug Nolan of Rock Steady Juggling
10:30 a.m. @ American canyon Library
2:30 p.m. @ Napa Library

**Wild American Canyon: Monarch Butterflies**
Wednesday, 24th/6:30 p.m. @ American canyon Library. Ages 9 and up. Learn about keeping monarch butterfly habitats healthy.

**H2O Superhero Recycle Craft**
Thursday, 25th /3:00 p.m. @Napa Library. Family Friendly. Bring your own water bottle and we’ll provide the popcorn!

**AUGUST**

**Environmental Movie Night: The Lorax**
Saturday, 3rd/ 12 p.m. American Canyon Library. Family Friendly. Bring your own water bottle and we’ll provide the popcorn.

**Wild Napa: Squirrels and Wildlife Management**
Wednesday, 14th/7:00 p.m. Napa Library. Ages 9& up. Get to know animals in you on backyard and their role in creating a healthy ecosystem.
Tutor Appreciation
Celebrating 35 YEARS
...of Literacy Services

Friday, October 18, 2019
Napa Main Library
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker-Music-Refreshments

RSVP Robin at 707-253-4283

Game Night

Literacy hosted a game night for tutors, learners, and their families. Parents and children were delighted to play and enjoyed the competition. Highlights of the evening included an hour-long checkers game and Sight Word Bingo, with one young man winning four games in a row!

Using games in lessons engages students in meaningful practice, communication, social skills, following instructions, and word recognition. Games aid in motivation and also introduce learners to new ideas and support critical thinking, creativity, and teamwork. Literacy games available for use in the Literacy Center include: Bingo (sight words, alphabet, rhyming, punctuation), Bananagrams, Scrabble, I Spy, Checkers, Silly Sentences.

Join us for the next Tutor-Learner Night on November 6 at 6:00 p.m. Our theme will be art!
### SUMMER CALENDAR

#### July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Holiday (all branches closed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Triple P class begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Learner Orientation 6:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Learner Orientation 6:30 p.m.</td>
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#### August

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Back-to-School Kickoff, American Canyon Library 10 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Learner Orientation 6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Back-to-School Kickoff, Napa Main Library 10 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Back-to-School Kickoff, Pioneer Park Calistoga 10 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Monday ESL class begins 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Learner Orientation 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>Basic Math in Spanish begins 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Tutor Training 10 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Tutor Training 10 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Thursday ESL class begins 6 p.m.</td>
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#### September

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Holiday (all branches closed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Learner Orientation 6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>International Literacy Day, all branches 1 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Salsa Contest, Napa Main Library 6 p.m.</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Lunch with Literacy 12 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Learner Orientation 6 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Citizenship Class begins</td>
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**CONTACT US!**

**707-253-4237**

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